CITY OF WASHINGTON.

JANUARY 13, 1855 48- All letters on business should be addressed to "The Sentinel Office," Washington.

O. H. P. STEM, is our authorized agent for collecting accounts due this office, and for taining new subscribers in Virginia.

We call the attention of our readers to a communication on the subject of Judiciary Reform in the District of Columbia, published in our issue of this morning. It refutes many of the arguments that are urged against reform, and effectually dispels some of the errors that prevail on the subject.

THE JUDICIARY REFORM.

We furnish, this morning, for the information of our readers, the bill for the reform of the judicial system of the United States, as reported from the Senate committee by Hon. A. P. Butler. It will be recollected by our readers that, on the 18th of May last, Judge Douglas presented a substitute, by way of amendment, to the bill. The two measures of reform are now before the Senate, and are engrossing much of its time and attention. We will insert the substitute in our issue of to morrow, and reserve for some future time our comments on the relative merits of the two propositions. Meantime, we would say, that the necessity for some reform, and the general importance of the subject, entitles it to the deliberation and full investigation which it has and will secure.

ILLNESS OF JOHN V. MASON.

Letters which reached this city yesterday, (by the Baltic.) announce the serious illness Judge Mason, our Minister to France. We learn that he was suddenly attacked by paralysis, which left him in a critical condition. This intelligence, which has caused us more than a common sorrow, will awaken general regret throughout the country, for no one enjoys a more universal and a better deserved popularity than the distinguished Minister to France. We sincerely hope that the next news will inform us of his complete restoration to

HON. MOSES NORRIS.

The short but serious illness of this gentleman, which excited the apprehensions and fears of all of his friends on Wednesday, terminated fatally on Thursday evening, at ten o'clock. The suddenness of the attack, and the brief struggle which nature made with the disease rander it an occasion of more than ordinary solemnity. It is, however, a source of consolation to his survivors, to know that he was cheered in the last hours of his life by the affectionate attentions of his nearest relatives, that the hand of friendship ministered to his wants, and closed his eyes.

Moses Norris, jr., entered Congress as a representative from New Hampshire, in the year 1843, and remained in that capacity until the year, 1847. His course in the House, his strict attention to the business of his constituency, and his devoted adherence to the principles of the Democratic party met with the approval of the legislature of his native State, who, in the year 1849, elevated him to the Senate of the United States. In this exalted position his integrity, and his industry, his capacity, and his unwavering devotion to his principles gained for him the esteem of his compeers.

He died in harness, respected by all who knew him, and honored by those to whom his merits and his worth had endeared him. His remains, we understand, will be conveyed to his native New Hampshire for burial, attended by a joint committee of the two Houses of Congress, and by his mourning friends, who watched over his last hours.

In further testimony of their regard, the two Houses adjourned, after the adoption of the usual resolutions of respect.

INTERCHANGES OF KINDNESS BE-TWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH.

The following dispatch shows that charity is not bounded by geographical lines and that philanthropy knows no latitudes or longitudes in its diffusive and pervading beneficence :

"New ORLEANS, Jan. 8, 1855 .- The How ard Association of this city voted, to-day, the sum of two thousand dollars for the benefit of the poor of New York."

This is, as it were, but the return of a loan : it is but the reciprocity of kindness and charity. It will be remembered that when New Orleans was suffering from the fearful ravages of the pestilence, summer before last, New York contributed liberally of her means to alleviate the miseries of the poer, as she did during the past summer for the relief of other Southern cities which were desolated by the same dreadfful scourge-the yellow fever.

Such friendly interchanges contrast pleasantly with the sectional criminations and recriminations that occur with melancholy frequency between the Northern and Southern portions of the Confederacy, and tend to show that, despite the acrimony sometimes displayed, there is a solid substratum of kindness and brotherly feeling beneath a ruffled and agitated

Judging from the accounts that reach us in the New York papers, never before, in this country, was there so much suffering among with supineness. We then hope, should this the laboring classes as now exists in that great railroad prove to be serious and practicable, (a city, and never was relief more opportune than that afforded by the Howard Association of of mental restriction,) that our enterprising cap-New Orleans.

The working men, thrown out of employment, occupy their time in holding excited meetings and in listening to inflammatory harangues. The burden of their complaints is the want of work and the want of bread. Such a our opinion, than the one preached by Peter dreadful condition of things always draws out the Hermit of our time-Colonel Benton. with repulsive and alarming distinctness the worst qualities of man, ingratitude to Providence, disaffection towards Government, disobedience to authorities, and envy and hatred of the rich. There is something ominous and menacing in the inscriptions on the banners used by the two thousand discontented and desperate working men who assembled in the Pari on Wednesday last. These inscriptions were __ "WE WANT WORE, AND MUST HAVE IT" _ the weak States against the threats of a power-"LIVE AND LET LIVE"-"HUNGER IS & SHARP ful nation. Though those words are uttered in THORN"-"THIS IS OUR LAST RESOURCE."

VICTORY OF SANTA ANNA OVER THE THE ALLIES IN MEXICO.

We have received our files of Mexican papers from the 5th to the 16th of December, thus embracing a space of a fortnight. The most interesting news we see in these papers appears to be the victory of the troops of Santa Anna over the rebels of the State of Michoacan-the ext of a contract between the Mexican government and M. M. Moore & Co., for the exclusive privilege of a railroad across the whole territory of the Mexican republic, to be commenced at the northern frontier on the mouth of el Rio-Bravo and terminate at a point on the Pacific ocean between Altata and Manzanillo-and finally, the hope that once victorious over Russia and Turkey, and seated on firm ground, the allies will assist the cause of weak American nationalities against the unbounded ambitions of their powerful neighbors.

These hopes or expectations, as you will choose to call them, are not without a native flavor which we will not undertake to qualify through respect for our neighbors on the other side of the Rio-Grande, with whom we desire to keep on terms of friendship. This, however, will not deter us from advising our readers that the paper from which our news is derived, is clothed with an official character, which in the present condition of things in Mexico, neans that it expresses the views of Santa Anna rather than public opinion. We must add also, that it would be difficult to find news anywhere else but in the official organs of the country, since, if we are not mistaken, the stringency of the law on the press is such, that t is almost impossible to assert the truth in any other way than through official channels. This peculiarity gives to the word truth a certain character which our readers will not fail to appreciate.

In reference to the defeat of the Michoacan ebels the Universal says that the details of the pattle now in its possession, indicate that the factions have received a death blow. According to this version, they numbered above three thousand when they attacked the capital of that department-two thousand cavalry, and one thousand infantry. This shows that the number of the dissatisfied is stronger than that of the partisans of the government, a thing which the Universal testifies in saying that the garrison of the city was infinitely inferior to that of the aggressors. The same paper adds, that the rebels displayed an intrepidity worthy of a better cause. The firing lasted seven hours. The result of the battle, according to the Universal, was the defeat of the assailants, with a loss of one thousand men, prisoners included. This, however, and we may say, unhappily for the Mexicans, is not a sure omen of the establishment of concord and union. among them. The blaze of the revolution when not blowing on one side, blows on another. History teaches us that revolution in Mexico is like the many headed monster of the fable, whose privilege it was to recover two heads when losing one.

In reference to the projected railroad, it is said in the treaty that the company for its construction must be formed within eight months from the publication of the decree. without which the contract will be void. That clause has to be made known to the Mexican minister in Washington and in London. Once the company made up, they are obliged to ommence their operations within two years and a half, and to complete the whole line within

The government will keep a fourth part of the inhabitants of Mexico. With that view, books of subscription will be opened in all the important places of the State. Among other stipulations between the company and the goverment it is said that the former will, by their contract, be obliged to convey the troops of the government and munitions of war at fifty per cent. less than the usual charges set down in their tariff. Besides, they will have to pay to the government ten per cent. on the dividends and fifteen thousand dollars every six months from the day of the opening of the rail-

Such are the main charges imposed by Santa Anna upon the contractors of the railroad, in exchange of which he will concede the followng advantages: First, the government will give to the company all the uncultivated ground in its possession necessary to the construction of the aforesaid railroad. As to the lands belonging to others, the company is authorized to take them on condition that the owners be indemnified. Secondly: All implements, machinery, utensils, trains, coal, iron, and all things needed during the furtherance of the work will be admitted into Mexico free of duty. All goods and merchandise of transit will be allowed to pass free through the country. The vessels belonging to the company will not be subjected to any duty in the two harbors situated at the extreme terminus of the line. That advantage will be extended to them for the space of fifty years to commence at the time of the opening of the communications.

This project, as far as we have the means of udging, seems to us pretty liberal, and will not fail, we hope, to attract the attention of our American capitalists, more interested, perhaps, than any others, in having a share in the operation. At a time when the right of passage across the Isthmus presents itself, under the shape of a vital question, to the attention of the people of the United States, a plan having the same object in contemplation cannot be viewed thing upon which we beg to exercise our rights italists will look on the other side of the Rio Grande, to see whether they cannot assist our Mexican neighbors in their landable undertaking. This is a project truly worthy of the genius of our people, and more profitable, in

Every body will understand why. As regards the opinion of the Mexican press, n reference to the Allied Powers, the Universal says, that it cannot be denied that it is satisfactory to see the two most advanced nations of the world now combatting for justice and right, disposed to sustain the same cause in America; or, in other words, that they would, if neces

ment to the wisdom and prudence of the present Cabinet, it is evident that Santa Anna takes his measures, in case of an eventuality, which his well-know recklessess would perhaps seek after, was he not kept busy at home by the insubordination of the people, and in gathering, what he is so much in want of-the nerve of war-money. However, it is fit and proper to notice the feelings of our neighbors towards us. The time comes to nations, as to individuals, when all accounts, old and new, are to be balanced. When that day comes, we will not forget the kind wishes of our neighbor.

THE HON. JOSEPH R. CHANDLER delivered speech, in the House of Representatives, on Thursday, in reply to the Know-nothing effort of Mr. Banks. He denied emphatically and positively that the Roman Catholic Church, or the Pope, claims or seeks to exercise control in the political affairs of nations; and, in support of this denial, he quoted from the published opinions of the most eminent of the bishops of that Church. Mr. Chandler, who is Catholic, ably defended the Church of which he is a member from the charges made against it in this particular. His remarks were eloquent and patriotic, to such a degree as to elicit the spontaneous applause of many of his distinguished auditors.

The Petersburg Intelligencer of Thurslay says: "Mr. Wise addressed a monster andience, at Phoenix Hall, last evening, colected at two hours' notice. We will speak of his address to-morrow.

"His next regular appointment is for Haliax, where he will be in season."

FORGERY OF TEXAS BONDS .- Important arrest New York .- There has recently been put in circuation in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York quantity of spurious Texas certificates with the rged signature of the auditor and officers of the overnment so handsomely executed that several rokers have been victimized. An arrest was made in New York, on Wednesday, which will probably put a stop to the game, at least for the resent. The Times says:

The accused called at the exchange office of The accused called at the exchange office of Mr. James, in Wall street, and offered for sale a package of these certificates; but Mr. James, suspecting something wrong, left the party until he could ascertain their value. Upon the return of the broker, the holder of the certificates was missing. Meanwhile, Gen. Ward, United States missing. Meanwhile, Gen: Ward, United States Consul at Panama, accompanied by several Texan gentlemen, happened to visit the office of Mr. James, and while they were scrutinizing the certificates the applicant came back to close his bargain. The aggregate amount of those he offered seell was about \$5.000 for which he seed to o sell was about \$5,000, for which he agreed to ake \$1,300, and would have been paid this mount by Mr. James had not the Consul and his

iriends pronounced them a gross forgery.

When accused, the prisoner declared that he met a man in Broadway, who boarded at the Metropolitan Hotel, and desired him to negotiate the certificates and meet him at the Hotel in the evering. The prisoner was brought before the Magive his name or say anything concerning his place of residence or business. He had pre-viously given the name of C. A. Keene, and under that cognomen the Justice committed him.

The Case of Dr. Graham.

SING SING PRISON, (ASPECTOR'S OFFICE, Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1855. To the Editor of the New York Daily Times Will you permit me to say, through you olumns that the notice in the Times of to-day, Albany letter,) in relation to Dr. Graham's alleged ntoxication and disorderly conduct, on Saturday forning last, is entirely erroneous, having not the lightest foundation in truth.

Dr. Graham was placed in the hospital of the prison, as apothecary, or assistant physician, because—as your correspondent correctly observes
—he was thought to be eminently qualified for that position, and not from any leniency shown him on he allowed any privileges not strictly within the rules of discipline governing the prison. It is due to Dr. Graham to say, that not only is it incorrect that any such occurrence has transpired, but that he has conducted himself with the utmost propriety and order during his incarceration—per-forming the duties assigned him with a cheerful-ness and alacrity entirely satisfactory to the officers of the prison.

Very respectfully yours, NORWOOD BOWNE.

THE SLOOP-OF-WAR ALBANY .- The following leter from the commander of the Princeton appears n the New Orleans papers:

U. S. STEAMER PRINCETON, Havana, Dec. 31, 1854.

DEAR SIR: You will much oblige me, on your arrival in New Orleans, by reporting this ship as having arrived from Aspinwall. We have been cruising in the Caribbean sea for some time past; we have also visited Jamaica, and received infornation from vessels which have arrived from the lifferent ports; but I regret to state that we have the missing Albany.

The Princeton will sail the day after to-morrow

Respectfully and truly yours, HENRY EAGLE. To Capt. R. W. SHUPELDT.

A BANK ROBBED OF \$25:000 !- On Tuesday, Janary 2, Mr. Slidell, the paying-teller of the Merchants' Bank, on making up the amount of specie n the vault, discovered a deficiency of exactly \$25,000! As the specie had been examined the two previous days and found right, this excited surprise. The teller immediately reported the fact to Mr. Palmer, the president, and Mr. Silliman, the cashier. As far as diligent enquiry can go, no clue can be had to the robbery.

There is no one in the bank suspected, and, in fact, it could not be done by any one but the porter, who is beyond suspicion.

The vault door is situated in a very exposed ituation, being near the entrance on the street, the porter was engaged in taking a large amount of gold for exchanges with other banks, he left the under vault door (a grated door) ajar, and during a temporary absence, being watched, five bags of gold, of \$5,000 each, may have been abstracted by everal thieves combining together. But, it may be, that the gold has been delivered

by mistake, instead of being "robbed." A reward of \$3,000 is offered for the discovery of the pro-

SPIRIT OF THE SOUTHERN PRESS is the leader of a long article in the Tribune, copying the advertisements in Southern papers of runaway negroes. We hope the Southern press will not think of retaliation by showing up the spirit of the New York press-say only in the Tribune-of the crime here, the murders here, the burglaries, the omplaints on the mayor's and chief's (police) books, the poverty, the starvation, the German meetings, the ragged school stories, the souphouse scenes, &c., &c. The fact is, neither Northern por Southern society is in a state of perfectibility. The Tribune ought to be most content with the Southern, because it is nearest Fouerism-a plantation being a Fourier association the white man the head Fourierite, the negroes phalanxes"-all things being pretty much in ommon, the head Fourierite getting only the greatest share, because he has contributed the greatest " capital."-N. Y. Express.

sary, defend the independence and security of TISITING CARDS Printed at Short V Notice, and Plates beautifully engraved in very style. W. C. ZANTZINGER. Adjoining Kirkwood House. Dec 7-3taw4wif a covert sense, and are followed by a compli-

. Rocal and Bersonal.

Tecumsch.-An interesting incident, in the life f this celebrated warrior, was related by General Leslie Coombs, at the late Old Soldiers' Convenion, in this city. That gentleman participated in the conflicts of the war, and was, therefore, an eye-witness of many harrowing scenes, some of which he graphically described, to the evident gratification of his venerable listeners.

At that day, where there are now five or six argely populated and prosperous western States, was almost an entire unbroken wilderness, infested by hostile savages; and through this our soldiers were obliged to march to the general battle. The accounts of the "hair-breadth escapes" were thrilling in an extreme degree; such as to excite no regret that the auditors of the speaker were not present with him to share in the imminent perils which he and his compatriots encountered.

The Indian allies of the British, in the height of heir victory, indiscriminately put Americans to nstant death; and on the right hand and on the left were seen our deceased soldiers; their brains covering the ground and their blood saturating the soil. It was impossible for the British, their employers, to terminate the dreadful work of murder; and in vain did the more humane of the whites of the opposing forces appeal to the infuriated savages to desist.

But there was a pause in the demoniacal proeedings, when an Indian, in soldier's half-dress, appeared on the wall of the fort, and waived his hand. Slight murmurings were heard among the Indians, as if in complaint because their bloody work was for the moment stayed. The chief orlered from the ground the more infuriated savages, and soon the cloud of death that hung over the American victims disappeared, and the light of hope beamed upon their hearts.

That chief was Tecumseh; a man, who though a stern warrior, possessed in an eminent degree, the feelings of humanity. By his prompt and timely interposition, he saved five or six hundred of our men from a cruel death : "and." said General Coombs, " when, afterwards, I saw his dead body on the battle-field. I could not refrain from weeping in remembrance of the kind offices to which I have alluded."

We noticed that many of the eyes of the listeners were suffused with tears.

Curlosity.- In the Criminal Court, yesterday man was on triel, charged with the crime of passing counterfeit money. The benches were densely filled with spectators, who watched every movement and listened to every word, as if all their present hopes and future prospects depended on the issue! Judging from their appearance they were laboring men; and, perhaps, being out f employment, they had crowded the court-room to be entertained by the trunsactions at the bar, and to pass away the time pleasantly. The accused individual must have congratulated himself that he was furnishing the means for their enterment! He was the lion of the occasion, "the observed of all observers," especially when his lawyer was discanting on the evidence which had been given respecting the cut of the hairy appendage to his face. We never before saw more oriosity manifested on the part of court-room spectators than yesterday. It could not have been greater had a wife-murderer been in the dock.

The accused counterfeit note passer was duly honored by having the eyes of the jailer and seyeral of his deputies intently fixed upon him; for, ere is always a fear on the part of such officials that prisoners may sieze a lucky moment and pass sway from that terror to evil-doers-the clutch of

Death has again invaded the halls of Congress The Hon. Moses Norris, a Senator of New Hampshire, departed this life on Thursday night, at his lodgings in this city, from an affection of the heart; thus causing a pause in the legislative proceedings, and impressing the surviving members with the solemnity of the event which has so sudly hurried one of their number to the to

The death of Mr. Norris was vesterday an ounced in both branches; Messrs. Toucey and Cass, in the Senate, and Messrs. Morrison and Bayly in the House, severally pronouncing eulogiums on the public and private virtues of the departed Senator.

In accordance with the terms of the resolutions adopted in each branch of Congress, Messrs. Toucey, Dawson, Foot, Fish, James, and Sebastian, of the Senate, and Messrs. Morrison, Chandler, and Bayly, of the House, were appointed a committee to superintend the removal of the remains of the deceased, for interment in New Hampshire.

At four o'clock, vesterday afternoon, the mem ers of both Houses assembled at the late residence of Mr. Norris, where the Rev. Henry Slicer, the Chaplain to the Senate, delivered an mpressive prayer.

The corpse, attended by Mrs. Norris and two of her children, together with the members of Congress and their officers, was conveyed to the railroad station, where it was placed in a special car, to be conveyed to New Hampshire. Mr. James, of the Senate, and Mr. Morrison, of

the House, attended by three of the officers of the Senate, Messrs. C. S. Jones, Wm. Mann, and R. Latruitte, accompanied the corpse on its way to the State of which the deceased was a distinguished Senator.

The Old Soldiers,-The Committee of two delegates from each State, appointed in pursuance of a resolution passed at the late Convention of the Old Soldiers, are actively engaged in the furtherance of the business with which they are entrusted, namely: the procuring of additional bounty lands, and pensions. They meet daily at the National Hotel, to report progress.

From what we can learn, the delegates other than those who are now in the city, have gone home with high expectations that Congress will grant them the relief for which they ask, and to which they conceive they are justly entitled.

District Penitentiary.-There are confined n this institution, white men, 60; black men, 14; white women, 4; black women, 5; white boys, ; mulatto boys, 6; black boys, 5; mulatto girl, Of these, there were born in the District of olumbia, 47; Maryland, 19; Virginia, 17; Germany, 8; Ireland, 6; France, 2; Pennsylvania, 3; South Carolina, 2; New York, 2; North Carolina, 2; Illinois, 1: Canada, 1; Switzerland, England, 1; Cuba, 1; Ohio, 1; at sea, 1. A white man convicted of bigamy, is engaged in the interesting business of picking oakum

The Weather, yesterday afternoon, was bland and springlike, and very many ladies and gentlemen were on the promenade. Mamas permitted their "sweetest, darlingest, little creatures," not yet able to walk, to be carried about in their nurses' arms, to enjoy the delightful, healthful atmosphere. This was the part of wisdom, for why should the "Younger America" be bandboxed in winter, because they cannot run at large

Pick Pockets.-We have heard, recently, of everal cases of pocket-picking. The villains who thus exercise their wits have, thus far, escaped detection, and are still, doubtless, wide awake for further depredations. Two of "the old soldiers," ven, were robbed by these light-fingered gentry.

Congressional.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

Senate-Friday, January 12, 1855. Mr. TOUCEY, rising in his place, addressed the

enate as follows: Mr. President, it falls to my lot to perform the melanchoty task of announcing to the Senate the death of one of its members. The Hon. Mr. Norris, Senator from New Hampshire, is no more. He died at his lodgings, in this city, of an affection of the heart. on Thursday evening, at half past eleven o'clock. Three days ago we saw him in the miles of its and

him in the midst of us, in the fulness of life and

health; but he was struck down in a moment

without consciousness; and, though he revived for a time, and was restored to the full possession of his faculties, yet a recurrence of the attack proved fatal. He has left a wife and family of children to feel bitterly their sudden bereavement Mr. Norris was the son of a revolutionary sol dier. He was born at Pittsfield, in the State of New Hampshire, in the year 1709. He graduated at Dartmouth College with high reputation for scholarship. He commenced the practice of law in his native town, and, soon acquiring the repu-tation of a sound lawyer and able advocate, he rose to eminence in his profession. He took a deep interest in public affairs; and, from early life, adhered to those political views which he ever afterwards maintained. In 1859 he was

ever afterwards maintained. In 1859 he was elected a member of the legislature from Pittsfield. In 1840 he was chosen Speaker of the House, and presided in that body with distinguished ability and success. In 1841 he became a member of the State council. In 1841 he was elected to Congress, and served in the House of Representatives the four succeeding years. In 1847 he was again a member of the legislature of New Hampshire, and again Speaker of the House; and, while serving in that capacity, he was elected and, while serving in that capacity, he was electe to the Senate of the United States for the term of six years from the fourth of March, 1849, and the same year took the seat which he occupied at the time of his death.

Such a record expresses the confidence repose

than any words of mine.

While he was a member of the House of Representatives he took an active part in debate. His cading speeches in that body were upon the great subjects of the tariff, the admission of Texas as a State, and the contested seats of the member from New Hampshire, and other States, who ha not been chosen by districts, in conformity with the act of Congress. All these speeches were of marked ability, but that delivered by him in the Senate, upon the bill providing for the organization of Kansas and Nebraska was, perhaps, most distinguished in that respect, and attracted the largest share of public attention. In the great contest which resulted in the compromise measures 1550, he was the firm and consistent advocate those measures, and he was never known to flag or to falter in their support. His views were enlarged and liberal, not limited to the State or section in which he lived, but comprehensive enough to embrace the whole country and all its interests. He was open and manly in his course true to his principles and to his friends, reliable under the pressure of difficulties, firm in the maintenance of right, greatly beloved by his family and by those who knew him best, and will be lamented by all. When such a man falls, his death is a public calamity.

In conclusion, he submitted resolutions appro-

oriate to the occasion.

Mr. CASS, (a native of New Hampshire,) in

seconding the resolutions, said:
Mr. PRESIDENT: Another solema warning has ome to annouce to us, that, in the midst of life we are in death. Another member of this body, who, but a few hours since, was among us, engaged in all the busy occupations of life, has been suddenly called from the service of his country to the bar of his God. The emplifatic words, "Be ye also ready," are written upon all the shifting scenes around us, and meet us day by day, from the cradle to the grave. Happy will it be for us, if the lesson they teach teaches us so to believe, and so to conduct that the shadow of the dark valley through which we must pass, may be illu-mined by the faith and hope which the Redeemer has promised to all who call upon Him through the Gospel.

I did not rise for the purpose of pronouncing eulogy upon our departed friend. Here, where he was known and appreciated, no such words are needed. I merely rose to offer my feeble tes-timony to his worth, and my tribute of sorrow for his loss. He was the sole representative of his State upon this floor, the State of my birth; and the land to which a grateful memory often reverts with pride and affection. This circumstance seems o render it not improper that I should take part in the ceremonies upon this melancholy occasion. It is not in my power to relate the incidents of his life, nor, indeed, is it necessary, for the Senator from Connecticut, (Mr. Toucex.) in the beautiful remarks to which we have just listened, has said all that was necessary, and has traced the course f this lamented citizen from his earliest career to his latest, showing the energy, and intellectual power, and moral worth, by which he reached his high position, without any of those adventitious circumstances which sometimes supply the want

tercourse with him while he was a member of this body. Ne one could hold that relation without the most favorable impression of the qualities of his mind and heart. He had a native vigor of ntellect, improved by study and reflection, which never failed to exhibit itself in his action and con versation. He had looked upon life with a careful eye, and his judgment was refined by much and varied experience. He had a most commendable irmness of purpose which never gave way before once formed, and to this he joined a probity of in orce of example to his authority.

In this high depository of national power, he was national in all his views and votes. Not cirumscribed by local considerations, nor influenced by local prejudices, but looking to the rights of al

and to the good of all. But he is lost to his State and to his country to his bereaved family and his mourning friends In the Providence of God he has been taken away while yet in the strength of manhood. As men so distinguished and so useful, fall one after another, we may humbly hope, that He who calls them hence will guide others in the path of duty to serve their country and to promote the best interests of society.

The resolutions were adopted, and a committee consisting of Mr. Foot, Mr. Toucky, Mr. Fish, Mr. Dawson, Mr. James, and Mr. Sebastian, was appointed to superintend the removal of the remains of the deceased, this afternoon, for inter-ment in New hampshire, and the Senate adjourned to attend the ceremonies.

The Senate adjourned till Monday

House of Representatives.

A message was received from the Senate, an-nouncing the death of Moses Norres, late a member of that body, and communicating its proceed-

ings thereon.
Mr. MORRISON, who had long been acquainted with the deceased, pronounced a eulogy on the public and private character of his friend; and, in conclusion, offered resolutions expressive of regret in consequence of the sad event; that the nembers and officers of the House wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days; that a com-mittee be appointed by the Speaker to act in conunction with that of the Senate, to superintend he removal of the remains from the late residence of the deceased, and that the members of the House will amend the same.

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, in seconding the reso-

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to; when the Speaker appointed Messre. Morrison, Chandler, and Bayle, of Virginia, as the comon ittee herein provided for.

On motion by Mr. PRESTON, as a further mark of respect,
The House adjourned until Monday

ions, spoke in warm terms of the character of

Supreme Court of the United States. FRIDAY, January 12, 1855. Wm. W. Niles, esq., of New York, was ad-

nitted an attorney and counsellor of this court. No. 40. Edward M. West, plaintiff in error, . Joseph Cochran. The argument of this cause was continued y Mr. Attorney General Cushing, for the de-endant in error, a uded by Mr. Geyer,

for the plaintiff in error. Adjourned till M day at 11 o'clock Rev. W. H. Milburn, Chaplain of the

House of Representatives, will preach in the Capitol to morrow, at 11 o'clock, a. m. Jan 13 THE FAILURE of Free Society .- Soci ology for the South, or the Failure of Frety, by George Fitzhugh. On sale at
TAYLOR & MAURY'S
1. 13
Book Store, near 9th street.

Communicated.

Judiciary Reform of the District of

The bill designed to accomplish the abo object, which lately passed the House of Representatives of the United States by so large a majority, and which is now pending before the Senate, has been violently assailed by anonymous writers, both in the form of communica tions to newspapers, and by pamphlets and handbills.

These writers have wholly failed to discuss the subject upon which they have written, in any spirit of justice and fairness. Admitting, as they all do, that judicial reform is demande by public interest, they have wholly failed to uggest the mode and measure of reform which s needed. They have contented themselves mainly with appeals to prejudice, upon un-founded statements of facts, and show themselves to be, in point of fact, enemies to all re-

I propose to notice, very briefly, one of the arguments, or, rather, appeals, addressed to prejudice, and calculated, unexplained, to ef-ect the object had in view, viz: to awaken preudice, and thereby to mislead.

It is the argument, or appeal, which these writers are pleased to denominate the "snap judgment" system, which they allege is provided for by the bill, and which they address to a class in our community whom they denominate "poor debtors," and for whose interest they seem to be particularly solicitous. I have always considered that writers were

hard pressed for arguments or reasons, who found it necessary to address themselves to classes in a community whose interests are homogeneous and upon whom laws must necessarily act equally. These writers keep out of view entirely the

operation of the existing system, which secure to a single justice jurisdiction of all debts amounting to fifty dollars, exclusive of costs. Warrants for these demands may be made reurnable immediately, and the utmost time defendant can secure, even in a contested case is fourteen days, unless the justice in his dis-cretion grant longer time. In cases over \$10 and under \$20, there is the right of appeal to the Circuit Court. In cases of \$20 or upwards, either party may demand a jury trial, and from the verdict of the jury there is no appeal. So that if either party choose it there is no appeal in these latter cases. The Justice has no right to instruct the jury, the verdict is conclusive. how procured, and there can be no exception or writ of error. What is the practical working of this system? At the present term of the Circuit Court of this District, a case came up on appeal in which the defendant had confessed judgment before the justice to avoid a jury trial and retain his appeal. The Circuit Court decided that, by the confession of judgment, the defendant had waived his right to appeal. In the progress of the discussion n the Circuit Court upon this appeal, a veterar attorney, who had once been a justice of th peace, and whose practice before the justices ourts is very large, declared that he had never lost a case before a justice where he was coun-

sel for the plaintiff, and had a jury. This gen tleman is one of the most strenuous opponen of the bill. The bill provides a remedy for the obvious defects of the existing system. Now, one would suppose that the zeal which is exhibited for the interests of "poor debtors, would lead some of these champions of "poor people" to have the evil I have described cor rected. It is no evil to a poor man to be sub ject to this stringent system, provided he owes not more than \$50; but if he owes more than \$50, even \$51, then he is sorely oppressed i he does not have eighteen months to two years after suit is brought before judgment is ob-In all suits at law commenced in the Circuit Court, under the existing system, the writ is made returnable to a term of the court, which is the appearance term: If executed, the cas

goes over to the imparlance term, six months off; then, if the declaration be filed, and there be no appearance for the defendant, a judg-ment may be rendered by the court if the declaration demand a year certain, or there may be an inquisition by a jury of damages; but, if there be an appearance, the case goes over the next term-the trial term-six months more. If there be no dispute, or be no cause shown for continuance at the trial term, there is usually a judgment, provided the case be rendered; and, after judgment, the defendan by giving security, can suspend execution for six months longer; and, when execution does issue, it is made returnable to a term. I have no comment to make upon this system. Th bill proposes to remedy it, and adopts the sys Virginia in the courts of which Sta poor debtors are subjected to as little oppres sion as in any courts in the world.

And what is the remedy? That when a writ s issued it shall be made returnable to a rule day, which is the first Monday in every month If the writ be returned executed, the may file his declaration, and give the defendant a rule to plead. If at the end of a month, the next succeeding rule day, he fail to plead, then judgment, called an office judgment, is entered or, if the defendant appears and pleads, issue is made up; and, in either case, the cause i transferred to the docket of the next succeed ing term for trial. At the term the defendant can plead as many pleas in bar as he chooses. when he has not plead in the clerk's office, or as many additional pleas in bar as he may think fit; if he has plead at rules, and if time be necessary to enable him to make defense the court will, in its discretion, grant it. It the defendant do not plead to the judgment of tained in the office within the first fifteen days of the term, then execution may issue, but ex ecution may be suspended for six months, by giving security as at present.

These candid writers say that judgment and execution can be had in forty-five days. They surely must have known better, or they did not examine the bill. The court is to meet on the first Mondays of March, September, and December. The judgment must be entered at February, August, and November rules, at the latest, in order to go to the docket at the next succeeding term, and the writ must be returned executed to January, July, or October rules; and to ensure its service, it must be issued from a week or ten days before the rule day. It must be evident that no judgment, and execution even by default can be obtained in less than from 80 to 85 days after the issue of the writ, in stead of 45 days, as these fair writers have alleged. If a suit be brought to August rules, it cannot go upon the docket till December term. If to February, not until September If to October, not until March.

Upon other of the appeals made by these writers, and especially upon the propriety and public expediency of delay in judicial proceedings, I may have something to say here-

DINE APPLE, Brandy, and Canada Cheese. Lavis Norton's brand Pine Apple Cheese, prime Superior Brandy Cheese, 1 lb. jars.
Do Canada do 1 and 1 lb. jars

English Dairy, imitation Gloster and Cheshire Parmesan Cheese, I cake, in prime order.

Do do grated in glass jars, I lb. each
For sale by SHEKELL BROTHERS,
Dec 13—3tif No. 40, op. Centre Market.

No. 40, op. Centre Market RTCLES of Utility.-Christmas Pre-

A sents!—STEVENS, Browns' Hotel, has a fresh, large, and elegant assortment of Gents' Scarfs, Napoleon Ties, Handkerchiefs, Cravata, Gloves, &c., of the best quality and latest importations. Persons making presents will find our as-sortment complete and of the best quality, and at the lowest prices. Sales Room, Browns' Hotel. MME. SCHONENBERG.

TEACHER OF PIANO AND SINGING, 257 PENNSTLVANIA AVENUE,

Telegraphic.

Illness of the American Ministeriat Paris. New York, Jan. 12.—The Evening Post learns, by a private letter from Paris, that Hon M. Mason, our minister to France, was struck with paralysis on the morning of the 27th of December, and was quite unwell when the letter closed.

The Steamer Canadian to go to the Cri-

Boston, Jan. 12.—The serew propeller Canadian, advertised to leave Liverpool on the 5th of January for Portland, has been taken up. by the British government for the conveyance of troops to the Crimea.

Election of a United States Senator. CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—James Harlan, whig, has been lected United States Senator from Iowa.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12, noon.-Cotton.-The maret is firm. Flour.—The market is onchanged, with a mode

rate demand at previous rates—Sales of 5,250 parrels. Southern is unchanged—Sales to-day of .000 barrels.

Wheat.—The market is firm.

Corn.—The market is firm, with an upward endency—35,000 bushels sold—western mixed

t 103.

Pork.—The market is firm.

Beef.—The market is dull.

Lard.—The market is firm.

Whisky.—Sales of Ohio at 391@40. The market

Amusement.

The Great Marble Statue

THE DYING GLADIATOR, On exhibition at Morrison's Building, 41 street, near Pennsylania avenue, daily, from 9 o'clock, A. M., until 10, P. M.

Admittance 25 cents.

J. S. HOLLINGSHEAD, Agent.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE, that the oriper, 1841, in the name of Ann Bronaugh, one of the heirs of Lieutenant Austin Sandridge, for his service as lieutenant in the continental line, has been accidentally lost; and application will be made to the General Land Office, for the issue of script on a duplicate of said warrant, in accordance with the 4th section of the rules and regulations of said office dated November 20th, 1852.

THOMAS BRONAUGH,

For himself and the other heirs of Ann Bronaugh PLAYING CARDS.-W.C. ZANTZINGER

has just received a very large assortment of the best American, English, and French Playing Cards of every description, and at the most sonable prices, wholesale and retail.

STATIONERS' HALL, Adjoining Kirkwood House To Members of Congress, Strangers So-journing in the City, and the Public generally.— Permit me to call your attention to my large and su-perior stock of Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings, which will be made up to order at the shortest no-tice, and in such style as cannot fail to please.

Having supplied my establishment with the very best workmen, I will warrant that all garments manufactured by me shall be equal to those made in any other establishment in the United States.

WM. H. STANFORD, Merchant Tailor,
Penn. av., three doors west of this t, No. 488.

Also, Agent for the regular French Fashions,

Dec 3 2aw3wif MADEIRA NUTS, latest growth; I cask just received by SHEKELL BROTHERS,

No. 40, opposite Centre Market E XTRA Heavy-plated Tea Sets, Albata
Forks, Spoons, &c.—M. W. Galt & Brohave just received a beautiful assortment of—
Extra Plated Tea Sets, latest styles

Castors, Cake Baskets, Card Trays, &c.
Also, superior Albata Forks and Spoons.
The above are of the very best quality, and ung M. W. GALT & BRO.

Penn syenue, between 9th and 10th sts. U NDERSHIRTS and Drawers of all sizes or sale at very cheap rates by
WALL & STEPHENS,

Dec 13 Pa av., next door to Iron Hall FINE SUIT OF CLOTHES. Gentlemen wishing to provide themselves with a mable suit of Clothes, at moderate prices,

will find every variety of style and quality at the WALL & STEVENS. 322, Pennsylvenia avenue, next door to Iron Hall. (News,)

FOR OVERCOATS and Clothing of every description, gentlemen should not fail to visit the extensive establishment of the aubplete assortment of every style and quality of Fashionable Garments, manufactured in the near-est and most desirable manner, which we are selfng at the lowest prices on the most accommoda-

WALL & STEPHENS. 322 Penn. avenue, next door to Iron Hall

CARD .- Our patrons and the public in A general are most respectfully informed that we have this day, the 11th instant, opened, with a large additional stock, our New Music Depot at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue, Eleventh, and D streets, where Music and Musical Merchandise of every description can be found on the most

A call is respectfully solicited. HILBUS & HITZ.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The Wood-Gas Controversy. RATHER sharp but distant firing is A carried on by some persons interested in wood-Gas Patents; and we perceive that the Wood-Gas Patents; and we perceive that the smoke of their cannon has somewhat obscured their vision. Dr. C. G. Page, as the attorney for W. P. McConnell, having presented his claims through our columns, L. R. Breisach, of this city, has presented those of Pettenkofer & Ruland, of Bavaria—he being their assignee—through the columns of the Daily Times of the 3d instant. He states that the first patent for the Bavarian inven-tion was issued on February 24, 1851, an authention was issued on February 24, 1851, an authenticated copy of which has been filed in our Patent Office; also, that the claims of his assignors were filed in the office; to protect their rights, more than a year ago. As no patent can be obtained for making or using Wood-Gas, the disputed point relates to the appratus, which embraces the reheating of the gas—passing it over a red-hot surface in its way to the cooler—after it is generated; this is clearly stated in Dr. Page's letter, on page 50. Now, as McConnell claims to have on page 50. Now, as McConnell claims to have invented the apparatus for reheating Wood-Gas, as far back as 1849—two years previous to the as far back as 1849—two years previous to the granting of the Bavarian patent—and as he obtained a patent for the same, on the 26th day of September last, although contested by Pettenkofer & Ruland, we cannot well conceive who L. R. Breisach wants to frighten, by declaring, through the columns of the Times, that he will prosecute the violators of the Bavarian invention. this notice to all who take an interest in the in duction of this invention, but, in doing so, he for-got to present any fact upon which the public can got to present any fact upon which the public can rely, to show what patent rights he possesses. When he again writes to inform the public that he has certain patent rights, and will prosecute those who infringe them, we hope he will be so good as to state what these rights are, so that the public may know what he means.—Scientific American. Nov 16—tf

\$10 REWARD.—Lost, fror, the baggage car, on Saturday, the 19th instant, on the route between Philadel and Washington, a Gentleman's Overceat, which was wrapped in a cloth bearing the name of residence and strapped on the top of a trunk; also, a new Leather Strep and Buckle from another trunk belonging to the same person. The advertiser considers this au occasion to represent to the owners and manaoccasion to represent to the owners and mana-gers of the railroad on this route that, for the comfort of passengers and security of baggage, an in creased responsibility should be required of their

Any communication addressed to the office of National Intelligencer will be received, and on re-turning the article lost, the above reward will be